

Edmonton, Alberta
February 6, 1950.

TO

The Honourable Clarence E. Gerhart, M.L.A.,
Provincial Secretary,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

I have the honour to submit a report of the chief transactions of the Department of the Provincial Secretary for the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1949, including statistics for the calendar year 1949 under the various branches.

REVENUE

1948-1949

Alberta Insurance Act:	
Agents' License Fees	\$ 36,456.85
Companies License Fees	110,068.15
Amusement Tax Act:	
Amusement Tax	440,791.10
Censorship Fees	34,429.00
License Fees	18,038.14
Moving Picture Operators' License Fees	3,357.15
Pari-mutuel Tax	112,776.19
Change of Name Act	2,219.00
Companies Act:	
Alberta Companies	54,825.31
Foreign Companies	26,794.00
Corporation Taxation Act:	
Miscellaneous Companies	264.50
Extracts, Searches, etc. (Companies Branch and General Office)	1,313.35
Fire Prevention Act	29,318.82
Fuel Oil Tax Act:	
Tax (less Commissions)	8,577,567.06
Profit on Sale of Fuel Oil Dye	1,007.96
Garagemen's Lien Act	545.07
King's Counsel Letters Patent	600.00
Lightning Rod Act:	
Licenses	566.08
Miscellaneous (Insurance)	574.50
Miscellaneous Registrations (Companies)	773.85
Real Estate Agents' Licensing Act	6,819.50
Trust Companies Act	130.00
Vehicles and Highway Traffic Act:	
Dealers' Plates	25,519.50
Drivers' Licenses	200,249.35
Miscellaneous Revenue	1,054.52
Owners' Certificates	1,920,335.21
Transfer Fees	14,020.35

TOTAL \$ 11,620,414.51

REVENUE 1947-1948 \$ 11,772,666.67

GENERAL OFFICE

There were three (3) incorporations under The Cemetery Act which was the same number as for both 1947 and 1948.

Under The Change of Name Act one hundred and sixty-eight (168) Certificates were issued during the calendar year 1949 as compared with one hundred and eighty-six (186) during 1948.

Claims of lien filed under The Garagemen's Lien Act show a decided increase from one thousand nine hundred and eighty-three (1,983) in 1948 to two thousand eight hundred and sixty-one (2,861) during 1949.

THE COMPANIES BRANCH

Incorporations of Alberta Companies and registrations of Extra-Provincial Companies have established a record during the 1949 calendar year. Fully thirty-eight per cent (38%) of all Incorporations and Registrations under The Companies Act were oil, gas and drilling companies. All major American Oil Companies and many independents are now operating in this Province and as a result a large number of other firms connected with various phases of the oil industry have also established branches. The vast oil discoveries in this Province are expediting its industrialization. The natural gas resources also pay a vital part in the establishment and inexpensive maintenance of new industries because of its availability as a ready fuel and source of power.

Incorporations and registrations for the past three years are as follows:-

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>
Alberta Companies Incorporated	401	350	587
Extra-Provincial Companies Registered	78	129	190

Oil, Gas and Drilling Companies incorporated and registered under The Alberta Companies Act:-

	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>
Alberta Companies Incorporated	14	46	86	178
Extra-Provincial Companies Registered	8	28	70	120

Of the one hundred and twenty (120) extra-provincial company registrations during 1949, forty-seven (47) were Canadian; seventy-two (72) were United States of America and one was Central American.

This branch has just completed one of its most busy years and this condition can be expected not only to continue but in all probability increase.

Incorporations effected under other Statutes administered by this Branch for the past three years are as indicated below:-

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>
The Co-operative Associations Act, 1946	25	48	55
The Credit Union Act	8	9	15
The Religious Societies' Lands Act	27	22	25
The Societies Act	84	89	90

THE AMUSEMENTS ACT

Amusements Tax

An increase in amusements attendance is noted for the calendar year 1949. Admissions for the year totalled 14,718,138 as against 12,209,751 for the calendar year 1948. Amusements tax shows an increase of \$211,553.01 or 52%.

Operative April 1, 1949, the Act was amended to define "Professional" which combined with an amendment to Section 13 brought certain athletics, sports and other entertainments where professionals were employed, within the meaning of the Act for taxation purposes. The increase in tax due to this amendment resulted in a total of \$51,877.97 or 13% being collected from this source during the nine months period April 1, 1949, to December 31, 1949.

BREAKDOWN OF TAX RECEIVED - PROFESSIONAL ENTERTAINMENT

<u>Received from</u>		<u>Received for</u>	
Calgary	\$ 19,655.55	Baseball	\$ 6,350.76
Edmonton	26,775.98	Hockey	18,434.92
Lethbridge	2,872.06	Rugby	15,511.52
Medicine Hat	1,214.81	All Others	11,580.77
Others	1,359.57	(Fun Parade etc.)	
			<u>\$ 51,877.97</u>
	<u>\$ 51,877.97</u>		

Amusements tax received from other sources resulted in an increase of approximately 39% during the calendar year which is due to increased attendance and admission prices.

Amusements tax increase over previous year 39%	\$159,675.04
New tax field (Professionals)	<u>51,877.97</u>
Total Increase 52%	<u>\$211,553.01</u>

REVENUE and ADMISSIONS during the CALENDAR YEAR 1949

<u>City</u>	<u>Revenue 1949</u>	<u>Admissions 1949</u>	<u>Admissions 1948</u>
Calgary	\$ 175,504.49	3,817,264	3,325,024
Edmonton	188,148.53	4,335,525	3,477,039
Lethbridge	29,167.12	735,766	711,832
Medicine Hat	19,038.43	492,037	465,374
All Other Places	204,797.75	5,337,546	4,230,482
	<u>\$ 616,656.32</u>	<u>14,718,138</u>	<u>12,209,751</u>

LICENSES ISSUED during the CALENDAR YEAR 1949

Entertainment Halls	812
Theatres	339
Film Exchanges	13
Itinerant Exhibitors	28
Travelling Shows (Including Carnivals)	101
	<u>1,293</u>

INCREASES in LICENSES

Entertainment Halls	22
Theatres	25
	<u>47</u>

PARI-MUTUEL TAX

NET TAX on PARI-MUTUEL BETTING during the CALENDAR YEAR 1949

Calgary	\$ 59,163.20
Edmonton	69,435.27
Other Places	39.30
	<u>\$ 128,637.77</u>
Calendar Year 1948	<u>112,776.19</u>
INCREASE CALENDAR YEAR 1949	<u>\$ 15,861.58</u>

THEATRE INSPECTION BRANCH

Due to the appointment of an Assistant Inspector of Theatres it has been possible to increase inspections approximately 44% over that of the previous fiscal year. Thus the Department has a more complete picture of the condition of projection equipment, panic and fire prevention appliances throughout the Province.

Architectural drawings surveyed for new theatres and remodelled buildings recommended for licenses show a healthy development, particularly so north of Red Deer.

Examination question papers have been completely revised for the three grades of projectionist certificates. The object of such revision being to maintain the standard of qualification and to keep pace with the advancement of projection room practices and to encourage projectionists to further educate themselves to efficiently and safely operate modern theatre installations.

The quarterly examinations were conducted in the districts required by regulations (Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat), for the various classes of projectionist certificates, also theatre and entertainment hall inspections were made by the examiner at these and intermediate points while in that territory.

There is a marked increase in the number of film reports received during the year. These reports show the condition of prints circulated by film exchanges and act as a guide to film damage and the location of projectors responsible for the damage. Twenty-eight (28) prints were revised, thirty (30) re-edited and forty-one (41) condemned as unfit for safe running. These latter, which constitute an extreme fire hazard, were taken out of circulation.

The following film fires occurred during the fiscal year:-

June 9, 1948	Film Fire - Okotoks Theatre. Two trailers destroyed.
August 16, 1948	Film Fire - Mayfair Theatre, Waterton Lakes. Five hundred (500) feet of film destroyed.
October 8, 1948	Film Fire - Bow Theatre, Bowness. Bad splice: Three hundred (300) feet of film destroyed.
November 24, 1948	Film Fire - Lamont Theatre, Lamont. Seven (7) feet only burned. Old print the cause.

The following tables show details of blueprint surveys, licenses recommended, inspections, certificates issued and examinations held for the fiscal year April 1, 1948 to March 31, 1949.

TABLE NO. 1 - THEATRE and HALL INSPECTIONS

Plans surveyed	50
New places recommended for license ,.....	50
Places inspected	144
Recommendations re wiring	116
Recommendations re fire precautions	119
Recommendations re exits	83
Recommendations re aisles	28
Recommendations re ventilation and sanitation	42

TABLE NO. 2 - PROJECTION ROOMS and PROJECTORS

Prjjection rooms inspected	135
Projectors inspected	270
Recommendations for repairs	171
Projectors condemned as defective	19
Recommendations re wiring	93
Recommendations re fire precautions	99
Recommendations re ventilation	43
Projection rooms condemned	7

TABLE NO. 3 - PROJECTIONISTS

	<u>Licenses Issued</u>	<u>Examinations Held</u>
First Class	112	1
Second Class	110	8
Third Class	121	19
Apprentice	56	-
Narrow Gauge	203	-
TOTALS	602	28

CENSORSHIP BRANCH

In the year ending December 31, 1949, the Censor Board reviewed 2,284 first print standard (35mm) film subjects, and 2,983 first print narrow gauge (16mm) films from Australia, the British Isles, Canada, Mexico, the United States and the European Continent.

STANDARD FILMS

Standard film, made up in reels of approximately 1,000 feet, were screened as follows:-

	<u>Films</u>	<u>Reels</u>
First Print	2,281	5,182
Free Print	<u>3</u>	<u>21</u>
	2,284	5,203
Second Print	<u>1,169</u>	<u>3,524</u>
TOTAL	<u>3,453</u>	<u>8,727</u>

These were mainly feature or dramatic subjects and were dealt with in the following manner:-

<u>Origin</u>	<u>Films</u>	<u>Reels</u>	<u>Elimin- ations</u>	<u>Reject- ions</u>
Australia	1	10	2	
Canada	1	1		
France	4	13	8	
Italy	13	66	10	
United Kingdom	122	563	27	
Russia	4	19	2	
Sweden	2	9	14	
United States of America	2,135	4,505	103	2
Yiddish	2	17		
	<u>2,284</u>	<u>5,203</u>	<u>166</u>	<u>2</u>

Passed Family Entertainment (Features) 60.93%

Over-all Family Entertainment 82.94%

NARROW GAUGE 16mm

Narrow gauge film is made up in reels averaging 400 feet and were accounted for as follows:-

	<u>Films</u>	<u>Reels</u>
First Print	614	3,084
Free Print	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,369</u>
	2,614	5,453
Second Print	<u>24</u>	<u>97</u>
TOTAL	<u>2,638</u>	<u>5,550</u>

These include educational, religious and dramatic subjects and were dealt with in the following manner:-

<u>Origin</u>	<u>Film</u>	<u>Reels</u>	<u>Eliminations</u>
Australia	2	13	
Czechoslovakia	1	8	
France	11	56	1
Germany	4	32	
Mexico	1	6	1
Poland	1	9	
Russia	5	38	
Sweden	1	2	
United Kingdom	24	148	
United States	<u>2,564</u>	<u>5,141</u>	<u>5</u>
	<u>2,614</u>	<u>5,453</u>	<u>7</u>

REJECTED FILMS

<u>Origin</u>	<u>Subject</u>
<u>Rejected in First Instance - Standard Film - 35mm</u>	
United States of America	"White Heat"
United States of America	"In the Devil Doghouse" (Reissue)
<u>Passed on First Revision - Standard Film - 35mm</u>	
United States of America	"White Heat"
<u>Number of Appeals-- 35mm and 16mm - Nil</u>	
<u>TOTAL FINAL REJECTIONS - One (1)</u>	

COMMERCIAL FILMS CENSORED DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1949

389 - First Print Features - 35mm	3,068	Reels
469 - First Print Shorts	605	"
308 - First Print News	308	"
84 - First Print Episode Serials	170	"
<u>1,250</u>	<u>4,151</u>	"
297 - Second Print Features	2,611	"
118 - Second Print Shorts	158	"
753 - Second Print News	753	"
1 - Second Print Episode Serial	2	"
<u>1,169</u>	<u>3,524</u>	"
1,031 - Trailers	1,031	"
614 - First Print Subjects - 16mm	3,084	"
24 - Second Print Subjects	97	"

The screening of all classes of standard (35mm) film during the year 1949 was 2,284 First Print (5,203 reels), a decrease of 33 as compared with 1948. Narrow gauge (16mm) film totalled 2,614 (3,084 reels) together with 24 Second Print (97 reels) were classified as commercial and on which censorship fees were collected, an increase of 261 over 1948.

Sixty-one per centum (61%) of the standard films submitted to the Board were classified as suitable for children. These were released with the proviso contained in a recent amendment to the Regulations issued pursuant to The Amusements Act that advertising and theatre fronts identify them as "Family Entertainment".

The new classifications brought into effect in 1949 require that all film must be designated as either "Adult" or "Family Entertainment".

THE MOTOR VEHICLE BRANCH

The work of this Branch and the administration thereof again shows a very appreciable increase over the past fiscal year. For the past four years the work and administration has shown a marked yearly increase which may be said to be chiefly due to the steady increase in the manufacture of automobiles since the end of the war. Consequently registrations and the coming into force of The Motor Vehicle Accident Indemnity Act in the year 1947 with its increase in records, etc., has resulted in considerably more detail to be attended to.

Registrations of motor vehicles again show a marked increase in automobiles operating over the previous fiscal year. Increase is also noted for the nine months ended December 31, 1949, at which date our records show that 128,361 passenger cars were registered. This is an increase of 13,685 registrations for the nine months period over that of the entire fiscal year 1948-1949.

Motor Cycle plates, dealer's plates and transfers increased in registrations 400; 282; and 1,200 respectively for the nine month period, whilst drivers' licenses increased 24,455 during the same period.

Accidents involving motor vehicles also show an increase which may be said to be due to the increased road traffic. Convictions for infractions of The Vehicles and Highway Traffic Act and The Criminal Code of Canada show a slight increase but not in proportion to the increase in motor vehicle registrations and accidents involving motor vehicles.

The administration of that part of The Motor Vehicle Accident Indemnity Act handled by the Motor Vehicle Branch has rapidly increased. Seven employees are now necessary to handle this work whilst a year ago two or three employees only were required.

Amendments to The Vehicles and Highway Traffic Act and The Motor Vehicle Accident Indemnity Act at the last session of the Legislative Assembly whereby accidents where personal injury or damages exceed \$75.00 need only be reported instead of personal injury and damages of \$25.00 as previously, have decreased the number of reported accidents although not to the extent expected. Under the amendment 4,082 accidents with damages in excess of \$75.00 were reported for the nine months ending December 31, 1949, whilst during the corresponding period the previous year 4,930 accidents were reported where the damages exceeded \$25.00.

Fatal accidents during the fiscal year 1948-1949 total 94 and 102 persons died as a result of such fatal accidents.

Our records for the nine months period ended December 31, 1949, show 86 fatal accidents resulting in the death of 92 persons. From these figures it would appear that fatal accidents in 1949-1950 may not exceed 1948-1949.

Generally speaking accidents result from:-

- Excessive speed
- Careless and negligent driving
- Careless winter driving
- Negligence at railway crossings
- Neglecting precautions to offset winter hazards
- Passing on hills and curves
- Children playing on streets and roadways
- Careless motor cycle and bicycle operators
- Passing standing street cars and busses
- Careless pedestrians
- Vehicles with improper lighting
- Motor vehicles following too closely
- Backing from parking places

Poor visibility due to:-

- Sun glare
- , Dust
- Wind and rain
- Snow and sleet
- Dirty windshields, etc.

Drivers' fatigue and operating under the influence

Poor mechanical condition of motor vehicle

Blowouts, etc.

<u>THE VEHICLES AND HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT</u>		<u>STATISTICS</u>	
<u>Licenses Issued</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1947-1948</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1948-1949</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1949-1950</u> <u>(9 Months)</u>
Passenger Cars	104,350	114,676	128,361
Motor Cycles	1,534	1,814	2,214
Dealers Plates	1,140	1,240	1,522
Drivers Licenses	191,492	204,045	228,500
x Transfers	21,000	23,400	24,600

x Approximately 20% of the car licenses are transferred within the year either to new car or new owner.

<u>Convictions</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 1948-1949</u> <u>(Twelve Months)</u>		<u>Fiscal Year 1949-1950</u> <u>(Nine Months)</u>	
	<u>The Vehicles</u> <u>and Highway</u> <u>Traffic Act</u>	<u>Criminal Code</u> <u>of Canada</u> <u>Section 285</u>	<u>The Vehicles</u> <u>and Highway</u> <u>Traffic Act</u>	<u>Criminal Code</u> <u>of Canada</u> <u>Section 285</u>
Calgary	1,276	148	1,205	136
Edmonton	1,401	248	1,586	220
Lethbridge	199	13	275	11
Medicine Hat ..	162	25	118	-
All Others ...	2,162	338	1,838	355

	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1948-1949</u> <u>(12 Months)</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1949-1950</u> <u>(9 Months)</u>
Accidents - all classes	8,102	5,108
Accidents where damages exceeded \$25.00	6,980	-
Accidents where damages exceeded \$75.00 (1949 Amendment to Act)	-	4,082
Fatal Accidents	94	86
Personal injury accidents	1,403	1,471
Persons killed in fatal accidents	102	92
Persons injured in motor vehicle accidents	2,035	2,118
Convictions under Section 285(4) of The Criminal Code of Canada (Intoxicated in charge of a motor vehicle)	95	109
Drivers licenses suspended by Court Order	281	409
Persons required to file Financial Respon- sibility Insurance	397	676
Judgments exceeding \$100.00	41	32

The Motor Vehicle Branch now publishes a booklet quarterly giving the name and address of all persons whose driver's license is cancelled or suspended. To date four booklets have been issued under dated of February 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15, 1949.

This booklet is distributed to all car license issuers in the Province and to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and City Police Forces. This Suspension Booklet is ever increasing. Issue number one dated February 15, 1949 carried 1,330 names whereas issue number 4 dated December 15, 1949 carried 2,129 names.

THE MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT INDEMNITY ACT

This Statute came into force on April 1, 1947 and is administered jointly by the Motor Vehicle Branch and the Insurance Branch. It makes provision for the suspension of the driver's license of any person involved in an accident resulting in bodily injury to or death of any person or resulting in damage to property exceeding \$25.00 and

provided for payment from The Unsatisfied Judgment Fund of unsatisfied judgments for damages resulting from bodily injury to or the death of persons and for reimbursement of hospital expenses incurred as the result of the operation of a motor vehicle by another person. At the 1948 Session of the Legislature, the provisions of the Act were extended to authorize the impounding of vehicles in specified cases and to authorize the reimbursement of medical expenses incurred as the result of injuries received through the operation of motor vehicles by another person. At the 1949 Session, the Act was amended to provide for suspension of the driver's license of any person involved in an accident resulting in bodily injury to or death of any person or resulting in damage to property exceeding \$75.00. The 1949 amendment also authorized payment from The Unsatisfied Judgment Fund of unsatisfied judgments for damages resulting from damage to property.

Details of suspension of licenses, security deposited and payments from The Unsatisfied Judgment Fund are as follows:-

<u>SUSPENSION OF LICENSES</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1947-1948</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1948-1949</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1949-1950</u> <u>(9 Months)</u>
Accidents with Personal Injury or damages in excess of \$25.00	5,253	6,980	-
Accidents with Personal Injury or damages in excess of \$75.00 (1949 Amendment to Act)	-	-	4,053
Drivers and Chauffeurs Licenses suspended	721	494	315
Drivers and Chauffeurs Licenses reinstated	152	153	22
Drivers and Chauffeurs Licenses still under suspension	569	341	293
Motor Vehicles impounded	-	8	4
Motor Vehicles released from impoundment	-	4	7

At December 31, 1949, there were 825 drivers licenses still under suspension and one motor vehicle still under impoundment by virtue of the Act.

DEPOSITS MADE BY DRIVERS AS SECURITY
to satisfy Judgments and Disburse-
ments thereof pursuant to Statutory
Requirements

	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1947-1948</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1948-1949</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1949-1950</u> <u>(9 Months)</u>
Deposits	34	61	13
Amount Deposited	\$ 5,991.25	\$ 7,520.05	\$2,815.00
Deposits Paid Out	4	14	4
Amount of Deposits Paid Out	\$ 420.00	\$ 1,623.70	\$ 1,035.00

THE UNSATISFIED JUDGMENT FUND

<u>PAYMENTS as a RESULT of</u> <u>UNSATISFIED JUDGMENTS</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1947-1948</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1948-1949</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1949-1950</u> <u>(9 Months)</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of Claims	1	10	28	39
Amount paid on account .. of personal injury	\$3,256.24	\$28,468.61	\$61,948.00	\$93,672.85
Amount paid on account .. of property damage	-	-	2,808.14	2,808.14
Costs Paid	\$ 481.55	\$ 2,786.76	\$ 5,920.73	\$ 9,189.04
<u>REIMBURSEMENT OF HOSPITAL</u> <u>and MEDICAL EXPENSES</u>				
Number of Claims paid ...	3	24	41	68
Amount paid for Hospital Expenses	\$ 301.75	\$ 3,083.75	\$ 7,625.51	\$11,011.01
Amount paid for Medical Expenses	-	\$ 1,689.75	\$ 2,677.00	\$ 4,366.75
<u>MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS</u>	\$ 659.00	\$ 100.57	\$15,156.50	\$15,916.07
TOTAL	\$4,698.54	\$36,129.44	\$96,135.88	\$136,963.86

PAYMENTS FOR

1945-1946 Accidents ...	-	\$ 5,363.53	-	\$ 5,363.53
1946-1947 Accidents ...	-	\$ 6,011.27	\$13,573.95	\$ 19,585.22
1947-1948 Accidents ...	\$ 4,039.54	\$22,480.35	\$38,274.00	\$ 64,793.89
1948-1949 Accidents ...	-	\$ 2,186.40	\$27,107.46	\$ 29,293.86
1949-1950 Accidents (9 Months)	-	-	\$ 2,180.47	\$ 2,180.47
Miscellaneous	\$ 659.00	\$ 87.89	\$15,000.00	\$ 15,746.89
TOTAL	\$4,698.54	\$36,129.44	\$96,135.88	\$136,963.86

THE ALBERTA INSURANCE ACT

The following tables showing the activities of The Insurance Branch for the calendar year 1949 have been compiled from records in the Office of the Superintendent of Insurance. Data on licensing items for the calendar year 1948 are supplied to serve as a basis for comparison because of the fact that from an administrative and practical standpoint this work is the primary function of the Branch. Figures relating to assistance rendered the public concern only the calendar year 1949.

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>Calendar Year</u>	
	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>
<u>Companies and Associations Licensed</u>		
Dominion Registered Companies	300	296
Alberta Companies	8	7
Extra-Provincial Companies	10	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	<u>318</u>	<u>312</u>
New Companies Admitted	15	9
Companies Withdrawn	13	-
Companies Merged	1	-
Company Licenses ^a Cancelled	1	-
Liquidations Handled	1	-
<u>Inspections of Companies Carried Out</u>		
Alberta Companies	3	4
Extra-Provincial Companies	1	1
<u>Agents Licensed</u>		
Resident	3,813	3,755
Non-Resident	97	108
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	<u>3,910</u>	<u>3,863</u>
Adjusters Licensed	64	77

ASSISTANCE TO THE PUBLIC

During the year 1949 many calls of assistance were made upon the Office of the Superintendent of Insurance in the adjustment of disputes between the insured and the insurer. The service rendered by the Branch in this connection consists of investigation of complaints by parties who may feel that they have been unfairly dealt with by insurance companies or by agents representing the companies. Through the services of the Branch disputes have been settled and members of the public saved expenses of litigation when insurance contracts were examined and it was indicated therein that there was no insurers' liability. This service is of great benefit to the public because of the complexity of insurance contracts and the fact that the average man on the street does not understand the contents of his policy of insurance.

Investigations conducted under the Act of complaints received and license applications meriting special consideration totalled 78. Four persons were charged with violations of The Alberta Insurance Act and The Criminal Code of Canada. In one case charges were dismissed and withdrawn. Three convictions were recorded on a total of ten charges. A number of meetings of the Advisory Board constituted under section 428 of The Alberta Insurance Act were held during the year to assist in determining whether licenses should be granted or refused in borderline cases.

The Home Assurance Company of Canada liquidation was before the courts on a number of occasions during the year 1949, consequently the Branch was called upon to do a great deal of extra work which would not ordinarily come within its scope.

The Thirty-second Annual Conference of the Superintendents of Insurance of the Provinces of Canada was held at St. Andrews, New Brunswick, September 6th to 9th, 1949, with the Superintendent of Insurance, Mr. E. R. Hughes, and the Legislative Counsel, Mr. K. A. McKenzie in attendance, representing the Province of Alberta.

REVENUE COLLECTED under THE ALBERTA INSURANCE ACT

	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1947-1948</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1948-1949</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1949-1950</u> <u>(9 Months)</u>
Agents License Fees	\$ 34,983.50	\$ 36,456.85	\$ 9,841.50
Companies License Fees ...	\$111,495.15	\$110,068.15	\$ 79,835.00

THE REAL ESTATE AGENTS' LICENSING ACT

During the calendar year 1949 the number of Real Estate Agents' and Salesmen's licenses issued by the Insurance Branch in the administration of the above captioned Act totalled 985.

Investigations of applicants for Real Estate Agents' and Salesmen's licenses and of complaints under the Act by Inspectors of the Branch totalled 99. Two prosecutions were entered; one conviction was registered; and one charge was withdrawn. Fines totalled \$20.00 and costs.

Advisory Boards set up pursuant to section 6, subsection 4, of The Real Estate Agents' Licensing Act met from time to time during the year to consider the granting or refusal of applications for licenses in borderline cases.

REVENUE COLLECTED under THE REAL ESTATE AGENTS' LICENSING ACT

	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1947-1948</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1948-1949</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1949-1950</u> <u>(9 Months)</u>
Real Estate Agents' Licenses	\$ 6,123.90	\$ 6,819.50	\$ 6,799.00

THE FIRE PREVENTION ACT

Fire losses increased during 1949 but it should be noted that the increase is principally due to one \$1,000,000.00 fire in Edmonton. A comparison loss for the years 1948 and 1949 is as follows:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Property Loss</u>	<u>Per Capita Loss</u>	<u>Loss of Life</u>	<u>Injuries</u>
1948	\$3,815,868.00	4.51	48	No record
1949	\$4,500,000.00	5.17	37	59

As a result of complaints to the effect that stove pipe regulations were being violated investigations were conducted in Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat and it was discovered that gas vent pipes of the 3" and 4" size were being sold in contravention to existing regulations. Samples of pipes were taken and tests made at the University and amendments to the existing regulations are under consideration.

Inspections conducted in 1949 by Inspectors show an increase in the number of special inspections made but a decrease in the number of specific orders issued and the number of cities, towns and villages visited. This can be accounted for in view of the policy of spending more time with local fire prevention officials, such as fire chiefs, to instruct them in inspection work, and, as later shown, more time has been spent conducting meetings and demonstrations and on fire prevention education. A comparison table for inspections for 1948 and 1949 is as follows:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Towns Inspected</u>	<u>Orders</u>		<u>Special Inspections</u>
		<u>Written</u>	<u>Verbal</u>	
1948	336	1,755	1,377	204
1949	307	1,266	1,010	362

Fires of suspicious origin are increasing and Inspectors were required to investigate a greater number of fires during 1949 than during 1948.

Prosecutions entered and convictions recorded by all enforcement agencies in co-operation with the Fire Commissioner's Office resulted in six convictions of arson and four convictions for allied crimes - namely; arson reduced to vagrancy, mischief related to arson, fraud, and sounding false fire alarm. One incendiary fire was caused by a person found insane and committed to a mental institute.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Fire Investigations</u>	<u>Incendiary and Suspicious Incendiary</u>
1948	118	15
1949	156	42

A fire prevention education program was conducted by means of public meetings, lectures and film showings. The number of meetings and total attendance at these meetings is shown by the following table which compares similar activities for 1948:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Meetings Held</u>	<u>Number of Film Showings</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
1948	98	No record	9,500
1949	219	128	13,272

Inspectors were instructed during the year to conduct as many fire drills as possible and to demonstrate the use of fire extinguishers, particularly at institutional buildings. Activities for the year showed 181 fire drills called in different occupancies including schools, hospitals and institutions. Demonstrations of fire extinguishers totalled 69.

The Fire Protection Instruction Unit activities are shown in the following table comparing 1948 with 1949. Although a small decrease may be noted in the number of towns given instruction and the number of recommendations given, it should be taken into consideration that more time was given to instruction of volunteer fire fighters and more practice demonstrations of fire fighting were called. During the year special requests by Municipalities for visits by the Unit totalled 38.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Towns Visited</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>	<u>Drills Called</u>
1948	152	567	No record
1949	142	544	59

Special activities undertaken during the year included active participation in organization of Alberta Provincial Fire Chiefs' Association and attendance at fire brigade activities in different parts of the Province. Fire Prevention Week featured special events notably an actuality broadcast of the Viking Volunteer Brigade program for Fire Prevention Week. Mr. E. R. Hughes, the Fire Commissioner, in company with Mr. A. E. Bridges, the Deputy Fire Commissioner, attended the Association of Canadian Fire Marshals and the Dominion Fire Prevention Association joint meeting at Regina, Saskatchewan, in May.

THE LIGHTNING ROD ACT

Lightning rod companies licensed to sell materials in the Province increased from two in 1948 to four in 1949. Agents licensed to instal and sell lightning rod materials numbered 43. With the advent of two new companies the lightning rod business showed considerable increase in 1949. Twenty-four investigations were made by Inspectors as a result of complaints concerning installations and three charges were laid and three convictions obtained for violation of the Act and Regulations.

REVENUE COLLECTED under THE LIGHTNING ROD ACT

	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1947-1948</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1948-1949</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>1949-1950</u> <u>(9 Months)</u>
Agents' Fees, Acts and Tax	\$ 1,117.07	\$ 566.08	\$ 494.75

THE FUEL OIL TAX ACT

FISCAL YEAR 1948-1949

Total sales again show an increase being 17,869,439 gallons over that of the previous fiscal year or an increase of approximately ten per centum (10%). This may be said to be due to normal sales increase together with the fact that motor vehicle sales and consequently registrations are on the up trend together with that of farm and industrial machinery.

Gallons sold at nine cents tax	90,565,816.55
Gallons sold (purple coloured) at one cent net tax .	97,491,420.70
Gallons sold by permit at one cent net tax	209,815
Gallons sold (Propane Gas) at one cent net tax	806,758.50

TOTAL SALES Fiscal year 1948-1949	189,073,810.75
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TOTAL SALES Fiscal year 1947-1948	171,204,371.92
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INCREASE Fiscal Year 1948-1949 ...	17,869,438.83
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NINE MONTHS - April 1, 1949 to December 31, 1949

Gallons sold at nine cents tax	86,768,749.37
Gallons sold (purple coloured) at one cent net tax .	95,669,066.15
Gallons sold by permit at one cent net tax	316,073.
Gallons sold (Propane Gas) at one cent net tax	1,090,349

TOTAL SALES - Nine Months	183,844,237.52
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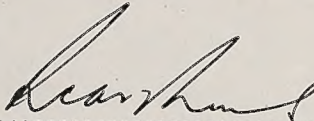
With January, February and March of the current fiscal year to be reported sales should be approximately another twenty-five million gallons.

Net Revenue for the Fiscal Year 1948-1949	\$ 8,577,567.06
Net Revenue for the Fiscal Year 1947-1948	7,657,915.18
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INCREASE Fiscal Year 1948-1949	\$ 919,651.88
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The increase in revenue of \$919,651.88 may be attributed to normal sales increase and increased motor vehicle registrations.

Net revenue for the nine months ended December 31, 1949 is \$8,343,511.25. It is expected that with the three months to be reported net revenue for the fiscal year 1949-1950 will be approximately \$10,000,000.00.

Respectfully submitted,


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R. C. Arthurs,
Deputy Provincial Secretary